

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as shown:

Please insert the following on page 1, before paragraph [0001]:

**SEQUENCE LISTING**

The instant application contains a Sequence Listing which has been submitted via EFS-Web and is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. Said ASCII copy, created on January 11, 2010, is named 028002US.txt, and is 3,612 bytes in size.

Please delete paragraph [0028] and replace it with the following paragraph:

**[0028]** Figures 4A-4C indicate different experimental configurations used to show that G bases on the hairpin loop of the capture oligonucleotide (CO) cause fluorescence quenching of RO-TAMRA. Figure 4A discloses SEQ ID NOS 2 and 1, respectively, in order of appearance. Figure 4B discloses SEQ ID NOS 3 and 1, respectively, in order of appearance. Figure 4C discloses SEQ ID NOS 4 and 1, respectively, in order of appearance.

Please delete paragraph [0030] and replace it with the following paragraph:

**[0030]** Figures 6A and 6B depict two experimental configurations used to demonstrate that hybridization of a target oligonucleotide traps the capture oligonucleotide in the hairpin-opened form and thus decreases the quenching of RO-TAMRA by the proximal G bases. Figure 6A discloses SEQ ID NOS 3, 1, and 5, respectively, in order of appearance. Figure 6B discloses SEQ ID NOS 4, 1, and 5, respectively, in order of appearance.

Please delete Table 6 on page 28, and replace it with the following table:

Table 6. Nucleotide sequences used in Example 6

RO-TAMRA	5'-TAMRA-linker-AAA ATA ACC ACC CAC CCA CCC (SEQ ID NO: 8)
CO	GGG TGG GTG GGT GGT TAT TTT CCC TTA CAT

	CGT GGG TGC TTC CGT AAG GGT GGG AGG GAG GGA GGG AGA G (SEQ ID NO: <a href="#">[[8]]9</a> )
B7-67mer	CCA GAA CTT ACG GAA GCA CCC ACG ATG GAC CCC AGA TGC ACC ATG GGC TTG GCA ATC CTT ATC TTT G (SEQ ID NO: <a href="#">[[9]]10</a> )
T3	GGA AGC ACC CAC GAT (SEQ ID NO: <a href="#">[[10]]11</a> )
SM	GGA AGA ACC CAC GAT (SEQ ID NO: <a href="#">[[11]]12</a> )